educational processes such as, Educational Planning, Curriculum Development, Teaching Teachniques, Instructional materials and Evaluation to basic and continuing education, (iii) to keep the teachers upto date in their own specialities. The Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi and JIPMER, Pondicherry are institutions where officers of Teaching sub cadre of Central Health Service are working. The K.L. Wig Centre for Medical Education and Technology, AIIMS has been set up under the tripartite agreement between AIIMS, Dundee Institute of Technology, Dundee, UK and Government of New Zealand, with a view to elevate the standards of medical and health personnel education by improving the methods of teaching learning and rationalizing the educational strategy. The objectives of this Centre are:—

(i) promote faculty development and develop skills in curricular planning (ii) rationalize the use of educational technology for designing effective teaching, (iii) influence institutional policies for improved educational planning, (iv) undertake research in medical education, (v) act as an advanced centre for designing formal instructional courses for certification, (vi) develop data base and information retrieval services on various aspects of medical education, (vii) undertake production of learning resource materials for training of medical and other health care personnel. The Centre has been recognised by the World Health Organisation-South East Asia Region Organisation as one of the centres for organising Regional Training Programmes on health Professional Education for the participants from South East Asian countries. It imparts short term training to WHO fellows. This centre provides technical inputs and resource personnel for workshops conducted by various departments of the Institute and other institutions in India and neighbouring countries.

Use of Viagra for Diabetic Patients

3483. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the medicine Viagra has been found by a modern research to be of immense therapeutic value for diabetic patients; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government would consider to encourage large scale use of this medicine for diabetic patients, through Government hospitals and dispensaries; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) No, sir.

(c) As per experts and available information, the therapeutic use of Viagra in diabetic patients has not been established for routine clinical use.

Conflicting estimates about AIDS

3484. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the conflicting estimates regarding the number of AIDS/HIV patients in India by some foreign agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how many agencies, including UN agencies, are collecting data about AIDS;

(d) whether Government have taken any steps to regulate the working of NGOs and foreign agencies working in this area; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) Yes, sir. However, the estimates of HIV infections by some foreign agencies are based on the nation wide sentinel surveillance report undertaken annually by the Government. But the number of deaths quoted in the report are mere projections and Government, therefore, does not agree with the report on number of deaths.

(c) The National AIDS Control Organisation, Government of India is the only agency collecting data through annual sentinel surveillance on HIV infection.

(d) and (e) Yes, sir. Government has formulated guidelines for the involvement of NGOs. The involvement of UN and bilateral agencies is subject to the approval of the Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India.

Education Programme for AIDS Awareness

3485. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of Government spending incalculable